Mississippi Development Authority PO Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MBED AND NISSAN SPONSOR FIRST WORKSHOP IN COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SERIES

Jackson, Miss. – On Thursday, April 25, 2002, the Minority Business Enterprise Division of the Mississippi Development Authority, in cooperation with Nissan North America, will host the first workshop in the MDA/Nissan Community and Business Development Training Series. The workshop begins with registration at 8:30 a.m. and runs through 12:15 p.m. at the Nissan Training Center at 152 Watford Parkway, Canton, Mississippi.

"The state of Mississippi is committed to providing opportunities for Mississippi companies to take advantage of the economic prosperity that the Nissan plant and the automotive industry as a whole will offer," said Governor Ronnie Musgrove. "The Community Development and Business Training Program will give businesses the tools they need to successfully compete in the automotive industry."

The training program targets the state's business community and their potential participation in the automotive industry. Each workshop is designed to promote a better understanding of the automotive industry and its benefits to the community, to increase business participation with the industry and enhance the skills of its participants.

Session topics include: "How to Do Business with Nissan," "Career Opportunities in the Automotive Industry," "Impact of the Automotive Industry on the Community" and "Opening the Door to Opportunity."

Established in collaboration with the Mississippi Minority Contractors Association, Jackson State University, Mississippi Economic Council and the Mississippi Minority Business Alliance, the workshop is open to the public.

The workshop is free to the public; however, registration is required. To register, contact MBED at (601) 359-3448 or dfloyd@mississippi.org. For more information about the training program or Nissan in Mississippi, visit www.mississippiandnissan.com.